THE PRINCIPAL

ACTS

OF THE

General Assembly

OF THE

CHURCH

OF

SCOTLAND,

Conveened at *Edinburgh*, the 24th Day of *May* 1753.

Collected and extracted out of the Records by the Clerk thereof.

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Begun at *Edinburgh*, upon *Thursday* the 24th Day of *May* 1753, and concluded the 4th Day of *June*, and Year foresaid.

I.

The King's Commission to ALEXANDER *Earl of* LEVEN *produced, and ordered to be recorded.*

Edinburgh, *the 24th Day of* May 1753, *Sess.* 1.

THE General Assembly of this National Church being conveened and constituted, there was produced to them, by the Right Honourable *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, The KING's Commission, sealed with the Seal appointed by the Treaty of Union to be kept and used in *Scotland* in Place of the Great Seal of *Scotland*, making and constituting him His Majesty's High Commissioner and Representative in this Assembly; which being publickly read, with all due Honour and Respect, was ordered to

be recorded in the Books of Aſſembly; the Tenor whereof follows, *viz.*

GEORGIUS, Dei gratia, Magnæ Britanniæ, Franciæ et Hiberniæ rex, fidei defenſor, omnibus probis hominibus ad quos præſentes literæ noſtræ pervenerint, ſalutem: Quandoquidem nos conſiderantes quod generalis Eccleſiæ Scotiæ conventus, in vigeſimum quartum diem menſis Maii inſtantis, convenire ordinatus fuit; noſque etiam abunde cupidi, quin etiam neceſſarium eſſe judicantes, in commodum dictæ Eccleſiæ, ut idem generalis Eccleſiæ conventus die ſtatuto debite obſervetur; atque rebus magni momenti nos alio vocantibus, dict. conventui perſonaliter intereſſe nequimus; et per multa teſtimonia nobis abunde ſatisfactum ſit, de ſufficientia et fidelitate fideliſſimi et dilectiſſimi noſtri conſanguinei ALEXANDRI Comitis de LEVEN, quod ad ſummum munus poſtea mentionat. rite exercendum et obeundum, uſquequaque ſit inſtructus et idoneus: Noverits igitur nos nominaſſe, conſtituiſſe et ordinaſſe, ſicuti tenore præſentium nominamus, conſtituimus et ordinamus, antedictum Alexandrum Comitem de Leven ſupremum noſtrum commiſſionarium, ad effectum poſtea mentionatum, dando et pariter concedendo illi pleniſſimam noſtram poteſtatem, commiſſionem et warrantum, ſacram noſtram perſonam et auctoritatem regalem repræſentandi, nec non præſentiam noſtram ſupplendi, et locum noſtrum in dict. ſubſequenti generali conventu, tanquam commiſſionario noſtro in hunc effectum ſpecialiter conſtitut. tenendi, omniaque alia ad imperium et munus commiſſionarii pro generali Eccleſiæ conventu peragendi, tam plene, adeoque libere, in quovis reſpectu, quam quilibet alius ejuſdem ſummi muneris fecerat, ſeu quovis tempore præterito facere potuerat, et ac ſi nos ipſi perſonaliter præſentes facere potuerimus. Quæque omnia et ſingula ab ante dicto Alexandro Comite de Leven, in hac noſtra commiſſione proſequenda, legitime fecerit, ſeu fieri ordinaverit, nos firmiter approbamus et habituri ſumus. Omnibus et ſingulis inſuper antedictæ Eccleſiæ et conventus, paſtoribus et presbyteris, ceteriſque quibuſcunque, infra illam partem magnæ Britanniæ Scotiam vocat. ſubditis noſtris cujuſcunque gradus ſeu qualitatis, ut dict. Alexandrum Comitem de Leven tanquam ſupremum noſtrum commiſſionarium, quoad effectum et modum ſupra mentionat. revereantur, agnoſcant, et dicto ipſius audientes ſe præbeant, ſtricte mandamus et imperamus; atque hanc noſtram commiſſionem, a vigeſimo quarto die menſis Maii inſtantis incipere, ac deinceps hac ſubſequen. ſeſſione dicti generalis conventus in vigore continuare declaramus, vel uſquedum a nobis revocabitur et exonerabitur. In cujus rei teſtimonium ſigillum noſtrum, per unionis tractatum cuſtodiend. et in Scotia, vice et loco magni ſigilli ejuſdem, utend. ordinat. præſentibus appendi mandavimus, apud aulam noſtram apud St. James's, ſecundo die menſis Maii, anno Domini

Domini milleſimo ſeptingenteſimo quinquageſimo tertio, regnique noſtri anno vigeſimo ſexto.
Per ſignaturam manu S. D. N. Regis ſupra ſcript.

Written to the Seal, and regiſtred the Twenty third Day of May, *One thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty three.*

WILLIAM SMITH.

Sealed at Edinburgh, *this Twenty third Day of* May, *One thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty three Years.*

ARCH. CAMPBELL.

II.

The King's moſt gracious Letter to the General Aſſembly, preſented to them by his Majeſty's Commiſſioner.

Edinburgh, May 24th 1753. *Seſſ.* 1.

GEORGE R.

RIGHT Reverend and Well-beloved, We greet you well. The Zeal, which you have ſo ſteadily ſhewn, for the Support of the Proteſtant Succeſſion, and for the Advancement of true Religion and Piety, has induced us moſt readily to countenance your preſent Meeting, with our Royal Approbation and Authority, as we have the firmeſt Dependence upon your continuing to purſue the ſame Principles, for the Encouragement of Virtue, and Loyalty, in the beſt and moſt effectual Manner; and you may be aſſur'd of our Reſolution to maintain and ſupport the Church of *Scotland*, as by Law eſtabliſhed, in the Enjoyment of all its Rights and Privileges.

We have had ſuch repeated Occaſions, to be ſatisfied with the Conduct of our Right Truſty and entirely beloved Couſin, *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, as well as with his Prudence, Fidelity and Abilities, in the Diſcharge of ſo important a Truſt, that we have again thought fit to make choice of him to repreſent our Perſon, in this Aſſembly; and you are too well acquainted with his unſhaken Attachment to our Perſon, Family and Government, and with his Zeal for the Service of the Church of *Scotland*, to leave any Doubt of his being moſt acceptable to you.

As the chief Intent of your aſſembling at this Time, is the Advancement of true Religion and Piety, ſo we are perſuaded that your beſt Endeavours will not be wanting, to promote that good and deſireable End, aud ſo we bid you heartily Farewel.

Given at our Court at *St. James*'s, the ſecond Day of *May* 1753, in the Twenty-ſixth Year of Our Reign.

By his Majeſty's Command,

HOLLES NEWCASTLE.

III.

The General Aſſembly's Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter.

Edinburgh May 26th 1753, *Seſſ.* 3.

May it pleaſe your Majeſty,

WE the Miniſters and Elders, met in this National Aſſembly, of the Church of *Scotland*, beg leave to approach your Throne with humble Acknowledgements for the Honour of your Majeſty's moſt Gracious Letter.

That your Majeſty ſhould ſo often condeſcend to take Notice of our Zeal, for the Support of the Proteſtant Succeſſion, and for the Advancement of true Religion, is an illuſtrious Proof of that diſtinguiſhing Goodneſs, which eminently adorns your Majeſty's Character.

As your Majeſty has been graciouſly pleaſed to countenance our preſent Meeting, with your Royal Approbation and Authority, and to expreſs ſuch Confidence in us, we humbly preſume to aſſure your Majeſty of the Continuance of our Loyalty and Affection, and that nothing ſhall be wanting on our Part, to promote among the People committed to our Charge, all that Duty and Fidelity which is owing by the moſt faithful Subjects to the beſt of Kings.

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The Assurance which we have the Happiness to receive every returning Assembly, of your Majesty's Resolution to maintain all our Rights and Privileges, as by Law established, fills us with the greatest Joy, and calls for the warmest Returns of Gratitude on our Part.

The unshaken Attachment of the Earl of *Leven* to your Majesty's Person and Government, exprest on many important Occasions, his known Concern for the Interest of this Church, and the Experience we have had of his Prudence and Ability for the Discharge of so great a Trust, render your Choice of him to represent your Royal Person in this Assembly most acceptable to us.

It is to us Matter of great Thankfulness, that we have a Prince upon the Throne, who so piously recommends the Advancement of true Religion and Virtue, as the chief Intent of our Meeting; and we should be most unworthy of your Royal Favour, and the Character we bear, as Ministers and Servants of Christ, if we did not unite with the warmest Zeal in promoting these great and important Ends.

Your Majesty's pious Design to promote the Knowledge of true Religion, by renewing your Donation, for maintaining Itinerant Preachers and Catechists in the Highlands and Islands of *Scotland*, we accept with all Gratitude; and shall endeavour to employ the same in such a Manner as may fully answer your Royal Intention.

Permit us, Great Sir, to say, that sensible of the Happiness we enjoy under your Majesty's auspicious Reign, we daily bow the Knee to the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, that he may long preserve your Majesty to be Guardian of the Protestant Interest at home and abroad, may pour out his best Blessings on the Heads of their Royal Highnesses, the Prince of *Wales*, the Princess *Dowager* of *Wales*, the *Duke*, the Princesses and all your Royal Family, may perpetuate the Succession of the Crown in your illustrious House, and after a long and happy Reign on Earth, may receive you to the Mansions of Glory and Immortality.

These are and shall ever be the sincere and hearty Prayers of,

May it please your Majesty,

Your Majesty's most faithful, most obedient, and most loyal Subjects,

The Ministers and Elders met in this National Assembly of the Church of Scotland.

Signed in our Name, in our Presence, and at our Appointment, by

ALEXANDER WEBSTER, *Moderator.*

ACT

IV.

ACT discharging Presbyteries to elect Missionary Ministers, or Preachers as their Commissioners to the General Assemblies.

Edinburgh May 26th 1753, *Sess.* 3.

THE General Assembly taking into Consideration, the Case of Commissions given sometimes by Presbyteries to Missionary Ministers, employed by the Managers of the Royal Bounty, to represent them in the Assembly, Do hereby discharge all Presbyteries to elect such Missionary Ministers, to be their Commissioners to the General Assembly, in Time coming.

V.

ACT against Simoniacal Practices.

Edinburgh, June 1st 1753, *Sess.* 7.

THE General Assembly taking into Consideration a Representation made to them by the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, relating to Bargains betwixt Patrons or Heretors in Parishes, and Candidates for the Ministry, or the Friends of such Candidates, and the great Danger which may thence arise to this Church, do hereby enjoin the several Presbyteries in this Church, in order to prevent such Practices for the Future, to take all proper Measures to discover if any such have happened in their Bounds, and if, upon Inquiry, it shall be found, that any Minister or Probationer hath obliged himself, or that his Friends before his Settlement, and in order to promote the same, have obliged themselves, upon the Account of the Candidate, that he shall not during his Incumbency Commence any Process against the Heretors, for Augmentation of Stipend, Reparation of Manse, Office-houses,

or

or enlarging his Glebe; or shall have become bound in any Sum or Sums of Money, or any Prestation to the Patron, or Persons connected with the Patron, in Order to procure the Presentation, or to the Heretors or others concerned, in order to obtain a Concurrence with the said Presentation, or otherwise to procure a Call to a vacant Parish or has entered into any Simoniacal Paction or Practice, for that Effect; that such Presbytery lay a Representation of the said Matter before the General Assembly, that the Procurator for the Church may have Orders to raise and carry on a Process of Reduction, of such Bargains, or Obligations before the Court of Session, and also the Assembly do hereby declare it a just Cause of Deposition in Ministers, or of taking away the Licence of a Probationer; and ordain Presbyteries to proceed to such Sentences against all such Ministers and Probationers as shall be hereafter found to have either entered into such Bargains themselves, previous to their Settlements, or who shall after their Settlements, homologate the Deed of their Friends, and do not immediately when they come to the knowledge of it, intimate the same to the Presbytery of the Bounds. And further the Assembly appoint this Act to be read by all Presbyteries to every Person before he be licenced to preach the Gospel, and to every Candidate for a Settlement in their Bounds, before they take any Steps towards his Settlement. And further the General Assembly being informed that in the Case of a certain Settlement in the Presbytery of *Dundee*, the present Incumbent's Friends, before his Settlement, had without his Knowlege entered into a Bargain with the Heretors, which has been very inconvenient for him ever since, they do therefore appoint their Procurator, to raise and carry on a Process of Reduction of that Bargain before the Lords of Council and Session, at the publick Charge; and ordain the Presbytery of *Dundee*, to give the Procurator a distinct Account of the Particulars of that Matter, so far as they have Access to know them, for the above-mention'd Purpose.

VI

Commiſſion to ſome Miniſters and Ruling Elders for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands, and for managing his Majeſty's Royal Bounty for that End.

Edinburgh, June 2d 1753. *Seſſ.* 8.

THE General Aſſembly do hereby nominate, commiſſionate and appoint the Reverend Mr *Alexander Webſter*, one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*, their Moderator; Mr. *Thomas Tullideph*, Principal of *St. Leonard's* College at *St. Andrews*; Mr. *James Muiriſon* Principal of the New College there; Mr. *Neil Campbell* Principal of the College of *Glaſgow*; Dr. *Patrick Cuming* Profeſſor of Church Hiſtory in the Univerſity of *Edinburgh*; Mr. *John Lumiſden* Profeſſor of Divinity in the King's College of *Aberdeen*; Mr. *John Gowdie* Profeſſor of Divinity in the Univerſity of *Edinburgh*; Mr. *William Leechman* Profeſſor of Divinity in the College of *Glaſgow*; Mr. *Matthew Stewart* Profeſſor of Mathematicks in the College of *Edinburgh*; Mr. *William Guſthart* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Wallace* there, Mr. *James Wetherſpoon* at *Yeſter*, his Majeſty's Chaplains; Maſters *James Nisbet* at *Edinburgh*, *John Guthrie* at *Ratho*, *George Logan* at *Edinburgh*, *James Bannantyne* there, *George Fordice* at *Corſtorphine*, *Robert Kinloch* at *Edinburgh*, *John Glen* there, *James Stevenſon* there, *George Lindſay* at North *Leith*, *George Wiſhart* at *Edinburgh*, *Robert Hamilton* there, *William Aitken* at South *Leith*, *Gilbert Hamilton* at *Cramond*, *William Bennet* at *Dudingſton*, *Robert Walker* at South *Leith*, *George Kay* at *Edinburgh*, *John Jardine* there, *Hugh Blair* at *Canongate*, *Alexander Bryce* at *Kirknewton*, *John Hyndman* at *Weſtkirk*, *John Johnſton* in the Caſtle of *Edinburgh*, *James Craig* at *Currie*, *Thomas White* at *Liberton*, *Robert Fiſher* at *Collingtoun*, *James Yair* at *Campvere*, *James Mackie* at *St. Ninians*, *Samuel Brown* at *Kirkmabrick*, *Patrick Wodrow* at *Torbolton*, *Archibald M'Neil* at *Kilchalmanel*, *Alexander Stewart* at *Blair-Athole*, *John Erskine* at *Culroſs*, *Alexander Dun* at *Bendochie*, *George Shepherd* at *Tarland*, *Patrick Gordon* at *Belly*, *John MacLennan* at *Contan*, *William Grant* at *Kilmanivaig*, *Thomas Hepburn*

burn at *Birsay*, *Robert* Boyd at *Muiravenside*, *James Allan* at *Eymouth*, *John Scot* at *Dumfries*, *Duncan Mac-Farlane* at *Drymen*, *Adam Ferguson* at *Mouline*, *Patrick Grant* at *Duthill*, *Robert Thomson* at *Killean*, *Dougald Allan* at *Inverchaolan*, *Hugh Campbel* at *Craigniſh*, *George Campbel* at *Banchory*, *John Grant* at *Urquhart*, *Æneas Shaw* at *Pettie*, *James Scot* at *Auchtergaven*, *James Stoddart* at *Culroſs*, *James Watſon* at *Newbattle*, *Alexander Fraſer* at *Avoch*, *John Adams* at *Falkirk*, *Robert Monteith* at *Longformacus*, *Robert Riccalton* at *Hobkirk*, *David Duncan* at *Stow*, *Walter Stewart* at *Aſhkirk*, *Alexander Orr* at *Hoddam*, *Robert Petrie* at *Canoby*, *George Barcly* at *Wamphry*, *Archibald Little* at *Morton*, *Thomas Turnbul* at *Borthwick*, *William Robertſon* at *Gladeſmuir*, *William Gordon* at *Alvie*, Mr. *John Cuming* at *Humbie*, Mr. *Daniel Brodie* at *Calder*, Miniſters: His Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, *Archibald* Duke of *Argyle*, the moſt Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Leven*, The Right Honourable the Earl of *Dumfries*; the Right Honourable the Earl of *Breadalbine*, the Right Honourable the Lord *Somerville*, the Right Honourable *Robert Dundaſs* of *Arniſtoun*, Eſq; Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, the Right Honourable *William Grant* of *Preſtongrange*, Eſq; his Majeſty's Advocate, *Charles Erskine* of *Tinwald*, Eſq; Lord Juſtice Clerk, *Hew Dalrymple* of *Drumore*, Eſq; *Alexander Fraſer* of *Strichen*, Eſq; *Patrick Grant* of *Elchies*, Eſq; *John Sinclair* of *Murkle*, Eſq; *Patrick Boyle* of *Shewalton*, Eſq; five of the Senators of the College of Juſtice; *George Drummond* Eſq; late Lord Provoſt of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Dundaſs* younger of *Arniſton* Advocate, Mr. *Andrew Pringle* Advocate, Mr. *Gilbert Elliot* of *Lochgellie* Advocate, Mr. *Alexander Home* of *Eccles* one of his Majeſty's Solicitors; *Colin Campbel* of *Kilbride* Eſq; one of the Commiſſioners of his Majeſty's Cuſtoms, Sir *John Clark* of *Pennycook*, one of the Barons of Exchequer; Mr. *Alexander MacMillan* of *Dunmore* Writer to the Signet, *Hector MacLean* of *Torloisk*, Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church; *John Bailie* Writer to the Signet and Agent for the Church; *John Maul* of *Inverkeilor*, Eſq; one of the Barons of Exchequer, Mr. *James Erskine* Advocate, Mr. *James Davidſon* of *Haltree*, *Albert Munro* of *Coul*, *James Whyte* of *Overſtockbridge*, *Robert Robertſon* one of the preſent Baillies of *Perth*, *Lachlan Grant* of *Gartenbeg* Writer in *Edinburgh*, Sir *Robert Sinclair* of *Stevenſon*, *George Dundaſs* of *Dundaſs*, *William Tod* Merchant and late one of the Baillies of *Edinburgh*, *William Keir* Baxter and Deacon Conveener of the Trades therein, *Robert Montgomary* Merchant and one of the preſent Baillies of *Edinburgh*, *James Ker* Eſq;

Member of Parliament, Dr *Alexander Martin* of *Little Airies* Phyſician, *John Paton* Bookſeller in *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Thomas Boyes* Writer in *Edinburgh*. and Mr. *William Halawel* Preacher of the Goſpel, Ruling Elders; TO be a Committee of this Aſſembly, for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands of *Scotland*, for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, ſuppreſſing of Popery and Profaneneſs, and for managing the Royal Bounty given for theſe Ends, according to, and in Terms of his Majeſty's Grant to this Aſſembly, and the fifth Act of laſt Aſſembly, and whole Acts therein mentioned, and in Acts formerly made and referred to, in the Commiſſions granted to former Committees; any five of the abovenamed Perſons are declared to be a *Quorum*, whereof three to be Miniſters: But it is hereby appointed, That, at the quarterly Meeting of the ſaid Committee, when the Scheme or Eſtabliſhment of Miſſionaries, for the Year enſuing, ſhall be approved and determined, nine Miniſters and five Ruling Elders, at leaſt, ſhall be a *Quorum*; and the ſaid Committee are appointed to have their Meetings at *Edinburgh*, in the Hall of the Society in *Scotland* for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, the laſt *Thurſday* of every Month, at Four of the Clock Afternoon, and alſo the firſt lawful Day after the Adjournment of the four ſtated Diets of the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock Forenoon, except when it falls to be upon *Friday* or *Saturday*, and then the Meeting is to be upon *Monday* next thereafter, at the ſaid Hour; with Power to the ſaid Committee to adjourn themſelves to ſuch Times and Places as they ſhall find moſt needful and convenient; and they are to keep a Correſpondence with the Commiſſion of the General Aſſembly, and the Society for propagating Chriſtian Knowledge, and their Committee of Directors, and take their Advice and Aſſiſtance. And the General Aſſembly do, by theſe Preſents, nominate and appoint the ſaid Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, to be Receiver of the foreſaid Royal Bounty, and to pay out the ſame as he ſhall be directed and ordered by the ſaid Committee, and according to their Rules. And the ſaid Committee are appointed to examine the Accompts of the Diſtribution of the Royal Bounty, and lay the ſame before the Lords Commiſſioners of his Majeſty's Treaſury, or the Barons of his Majeſty's Court of Exchequer, and to report their Diligence to the General Aſſembly, to whom they are to be accountable. And it is agreed, that no Perſon once employed, and inſert in the Scheme, ſhall be ſtruck out thereof for that Year, but by the *Quorum* of at leaſt nine Miniſters and five Ruling Elders: And in caſe any Complaint ſhall be made againſt any of them on the Scheme, it ſhall not be determined at the firſt ordinary Meeting that the ſame is offered, but ſhall ly on

on the Table till another Meeting; and, in the mean Time the Person complained of, and the Presbytery of the Bounds wherein he officiates, shall be acquainted of such Complaint, and these concerned be required to send to the said Committee a just Account of the Matter, against their next Meeting. And it is further appointed, That, after the yearly Scheme of Missionaries on the Royal Bounty is settled, in Manner above directed, and Notice thereof given by Letters to the Presbyteries concerned, such Presbyteries shall send up to the said Committee their Answers to these Letters, at fartheſt, with their Commissioners to the General Assembly, if the same be not done sooner; and that the Committee, at their Meeting in *May*, shall name a Sub-committee of their Number, for preparing next Year's Scheme, who are to lay their Draught thereof before a subsequent Meeting.

VII.

Commission to some Ministers and Ruling Elders, for discussing Affairs referred to them.

Edinburgh, 4th *June* 1753, *Sess. ult.*

THE General Assembly considering that there are divers Affairs which they cannot overtake, do hereby nominate, commissionate and appoint the Reverend Mr. *Alexander Webster* one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, their Moderator; and from the Presbytery of *Kirkcudbright*, Mr. *John MacNaught* at *Buttle*, Mr. *Andrew Reid* at *Carsphaern*, Mr. *Nathaniel MacKie* at *Crossmichael*, Ministers; *Robert Nasmith* Merchant in *Kirkcudbright*, Ruling Elder; from the Presbytery of *Wigton*, Mr. *John Hart* at *Kirkinner*, Mr. *Samuel Brown* at *Kirkmabrick*, Ministers; *John Hathorn* of *Airies*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Wigton* Dr *Alexander Martin* of *Little Airies* Physician: Burgh of *Whithorn*, *Hugh Hathorn* Merchant and late Dean of Guild of *Edinburgh*: From the Presbytery of *Stranrawer*, Mr. *Alexander Henderson* at *Portpatrick*, Mr. *James MacCulloch* at *Kirkcolm*, Ministers; Sir *Thomas Hay* of *Park*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Stranrawer*. Mr.

Andrew MacDowal of *Kingſeat*, Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Air*, Mr. *George Reid* junior at *Ochiltree*, Mr. *Patrick Wodrow* at *Torbolton*, Mr. *William Walker* at *Monktoun*, Mr. *John Dun* at *Auchinleck*, Mr. *George Muir* at *Old Cumnock*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Earl of *Dumfries*, Mr. *Alexander Boſwel* of *Auchinleck*, Advocate, Ruling Elders: Burgh of *Air*, Mr. *William Wallace* of *Cairnhill*, Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Irvine*, Mr. *John Fularton* at *Dalry*, Mr. *Malcolm Brown* at *Kilbirnie*, Mr. *Robert Hall* at *Kilmarnock*, Miniſters; *John Morckland* Merchant in *Kilmarnock*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Irvine*, the Honourable *Patrick Boyle* of *Shewalton*, one of the Senators of the College of Juſtice: From the Presbytery of *Paiſley*, Mr. *Henry Miller* at *Neilſton*, Mr. *John Fleming* at *Kilmacolm*, Mr. *Alexander Crookſhanks*, at *Mearns*, Miniſters; Mr. *Archibald Campbell* of *Elderſlie*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Renfrew*, the Honourable *William Maſter* of *Roſs*: From the Presbytery of *Hamilton*, Mr. *Thomas Cleland* at *Cambuſnethan*, Mr. *James Miller* at *Hamilton*, Mr. *James Hamilton* at *Bothwell*, Miniſters; *James Hamilton* of *Stevenſon*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lanerk*, Mr. *Charles Hunter* at *Pittinain*, Mr. *James Bradefute* at *Dunſyre*, Mr. *William Nimmo* at *Roberton*, Miniſters; Mr. *James Whyte* of *Overſtockbridge*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Glaſgow*, Mr. *John Hamilton* at *Glaſgow*, Mr. *Alexander Dun* at *Calder*, Mr. *John Kerr* at *Carmunock*, Miniſters; *Archibala Ingram* Merchant in *Glaſgow*, Ruling Elder: City of *Glaſgow*, *John Murdoch* ſenior Merchant and one of the preſent Baillies thereof; Univerſity of *Glaſgow*, Mr. *William Leechman* Profeſſor of Divinity therein: Burgh of *Rutherglen*, *Robert Spence* of *Stonelaw*: From the Presbytery of *Dumbarton*, Mr. *James Baine* at *Killearn*, Mr. *Archibald Smith* at *Fintry*, Mr. *Duncan MacFarlane* at *Drymen*, Miniſters; Sir *James Colquhoun* of *Luſs*, Ruling Elder: From the Burgh of *Dumbarton*, Mr. *James Smollet* of *Bonhill* Advocate: From the Preſbytery of *Dunoon*, Mr. *James Stewart* at *Kingarth*, Mr. *Dougal Allan* at *Innerchaolan*, Miniſters; *Duncan Campbel* of *South-hall*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kintyre*, Mr, *Robert Thomſon* at *Killean*, Mr. *Archibald MacNeil* at *Kilchalmanel*, Miniſters; Mr. *Alexander MacMillan* of *Dunmore* Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Inverary*, Mr. *Hugh Campbel* at *Craigniſh*, Mr. *Donald Campbell* at *Northknapdale*, Miniſters; *Colin Campbel* of *Kilbride*, Elq; one of the Commiſſioners of his Majeſty's Cuſtoms, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lorn*, Mr. *James Stewart* at *Kilbranden*, Mr. *William Campbel* at *Kilchrennan* Miniſters: From the Presbytery of *Mull*, Mr. *Lauchlan Campbel* at *Ardnamurchan*, Mr. *Thomas Muſhet* Itinerant Miniſter at *Stron-*

Strontian, Miniſters; *Hector MacLean* of *Torloisk*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dunkeld*, Mr. *Robert Robertſon* at *Kirkmichael*, Mr. *Adam Fergusson* at *Mouline*, Mr. *Alexander Stewart* at *Blair Athole*, Mr. *James Scot* at *Ochtergaven*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Earl of *Breadalbine*, and Mr. *John Campbel* Caſhier to the Royal Bank Ruling Elders: From the Presbytery of *Perth*, Mr. *John Moncrief* at *Rhind*, Mr. *James Wemyſs* at *Errol*, Mr. *Patrick Duncan* at *Tippermuir*, Mr. *Andrew Williamſon* at *Arngosk*, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Craigie* of *Glendoick* Advocate, *Robert Robertſon* Merchant, and one of the preſent Baillies of *Perth*, Ruling Elders: Burgh of *Perth*, *James Cree* Eſq; preſent Provoſt thereof: From the Presbytery of *Stirling*, Mr. *Thomas Turner* at *Stirling*, Mr. *John Penman* at *Bothkennar*, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Bruce* of *Kennet* Advocate, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Stirling*, *John Gilleſpie*, Surgeon therein: From the Presbytery of *Auchterarder*, Mr. *Andrew Smith* at *Dunning*, Mr. *William Moncrief* at *Blackfoord*, Mr. *John Storer* at *Foſſoway*, Miniſters; *Andrew Greig* of *Tillery*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dumblane*, Mr. *John Fergusson* at *Port*, Mr. *John Stark* at *Lecroſt*, Miniſters; *James Graham* of *Leechton*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, Mr. *Andrew Richardſon* at *Inverkeithing*, Mr. *John Erskine* at *Culroſs*, Mr. *James Stoddart* there, Miniſters; *James Dewar* of *Laſſoddie* Eſq; Ruling Elder; Burgh of *Dumfermline*, *Collin Angus* Merchant there; Burgh of *Culroſs*, Sir *George Preſton* of *Valleyfield*; Burgh of *Inverkeithing*, Mr. *Arnot* of *Hilton*: From the Presbytery of *Kirkcaldie*, Mr. *John Currie* at *Kinglaſſie*, Mr. *Robert Spears* at *Burntiſland*, Mr. *David Rentoul* at *Kirkcaldy*, Miniſters; Baillie *George Higgie*, Ruling Elder; Burgh of *Kirkcaldy*, Dr. *Robert White* of *Bennochy*; Burgh of *Dyſart*, Mr. *John Sinclair* of *Balgreigie* Advocate; Burgh of *Kinghorn*, Mr. *Gilbert Elliot* of *Lochgellie* Advocate; Burgh of *Burntiſland*, Mr. *Samuel Charters* Town Clerk thereof: From the Presbytery of *Coupar*, Mr. *Archibald Myles* at *Monzie*, Mr. *Thomas Condie* at *Dairſie*, Mr. *Samuel Weſt* at *Logie*, Mr. *David Hunter* at *Moniemeal*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Earl of *Leven* and *Andrew Ballingal*, Ruling Elders; Burgh of *Coupar*, the Honourable Mr. *James Leſlie* preſent Provoſt thereof: From the Presbytery of St. *Andrews*, Mr. *William Dalglieſh* at *Ferrypartoncraigs*, Mr. *John Ferrier* at *Largo*, Mr. *John Chalmers* at *Ely*, Mr, *William Trail* at St. *Monance*, Miniſters; Doctor *George Haddow* Profeſſor of *Hebrew* in the New College of St. *Andrews*, *Alexander Scot* Indweller in *Collinsburgh*, Ruling Elders; Burgh of St. *Andrews*, Dr. *James Scot* of *Coats*; Univerſity of St. *Andrews*, Mr. *David Young* Profeſſor of Philoſophy in the United Col-

College of St. *Salvator* and St. *Leonard* in the ſaid Univerſity; Burgh of *Pittenweem*, *Robert Dick* Cordner and Burgeis therein; Burgh of *Crail*, *James Laurie* Shoe-maker there; Burgh of *Anſtruther* Eaſter, *John Bald* Sadler there; Burgh of *Anſtruther* Weſter, *George Rob* Taylor therein; Burgh of *Killrennie*, *James Spindie* Merchant therein: From the Presbytery of *Meigle*, Mr. *Robert Trail* at *Kettins*, Mr. *Alexander Dun* at *Bendochie*, Mr. *James Ogilvie* at *Eaſie* and *Nevie*, Miniſters; *John Murray* of *Lintroſe* Eſq; Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Forfar*, Mr. *John Young* at *Inverarity*, Mr. *John Ker* at *Forfar*, Miniſters; Mr. *James Carnegie* of *Finevan*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dundee*, Mr. *John Stewart* at *Tealing*, Mr. *Thomas Randal* at *Inchture*, Mr. *James Playfair* at *Benvie*, Miniſters; *John Jobſon* Merchant and late Baillie in *Dundee*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dundee*, Mr. *Thomas Boyce* Writer in *Edinburgh*: From the Presbytery of *Aberbrothwick*, Mr. *James Small* at *Carmylie*, Mr. *William Dall* at *Barrie*, Miniſters; the Honourable *John Maul* of *Inverkeilor*, one of the Barons of Exchequer, Ruling Elder; Burgh of *Aberbrothwick*, *James Butchart* one of the preſent Baillies thereof: From the Presbytery of *Brechine*, Mr. *James Beattie* at *Marytoun*, Mr. *James Lauder* at *Dun*, Mr. *Patrick Turnbul* at *Strickathrow* Miniſters; *George Roſs* Provoſt of *Montroſe*, Ruling Elder; Burgh of *Montroſe*, *John Pilmore* one of the preſent Baillies thereof: From the Presbytery of *Fordoun*, Mr. *Robert Young* at *Benholm*, Mr. *James Walker* at *Dunnottar*, Mr. *Alexander Forbes* at *Fetteresſo* Miniſters; *Arthur Straiton* of *Kirkſide*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *James Ogilvie* at *Aberdeen*, Mr. *John Lumiſden* Profeſſor of Divinity in the King's College of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *Patrick Black* at *Peter Culter*, Mr. *John Glenny* at *Drumoak*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable *William Grant* of *Preſtongrange*, Eſq; his Majeſty's Advocate, and *James Moriſon* Eſq; preſent Provoſt of *Aberdeen*, Ruling Elders; City of *Aberdeen*, Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church; Mariſhal College, Mr. *Robert Pollock*, Profeſſor of Divinity therein: From the Presbytery of *Kincardin O Neil*, Mr. *George Shepherd* at *Tarland*, Mr. *William MacKenzie* at *Glenmuck*, Mr. *George Campbel* at *Banchory ternan*, Miniſters; Captain *Alexander MacKenzie* of *Dallmoir*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Alford* Mr. *Patrick Reid* at *Clatt*; Mr. *Theodore Gordon*, at *Kennethmont*, Mr. *John Lumiſden* at *Strathdon*, Miniſters; Sir *Arthur Forbes* of *Craigievar*, Baronet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Ellon*, Mr. *Andrew Moir*, at *Ellon*, Mr. *John Roſe* at *Logie*, Miniſters; *George Clerk*

Clark in *Slains*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Garrioch*, Mr. *Thomas Shepherd* at *Bourty*, Mr. *George Ogilvie* at *Premnay*, Mr. *Patrick Simpſon* at *Kemnay*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Lord *Drumore*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Kintore*, Mr. *Thomas Dundaſs* of *Quarrel*: From the Presbytery of *Deer*, Mr. *George Largue* at *Rathen*, Mr. *John Brown* at *Longſide*, Mr. *Robert Garden* at St. *Fergus*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Lord *Strichen*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Turreff*, Mr. *Andrew Ker* at *Turreff*, Mr. *William Moir* at *Fyvie*, Miniſters; *George Ironſide* in the Pariſh of *Alvah*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Fordice*, Mr. *Walter Moriſon* at *Deskford*, Mr. *James Ogilvie* at *Ordiquhil*, Miniſters; Mr. *Robert Pringle* Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Strathbogie*, Mr. *Alexander Chalmers* at *Glaſs*, Mr. *Patrick Gordon* at *Belly*, Miniſters; *James Smith* in *Whitehill* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Aberlour*, Mr. *John Touch* at *Aberlour*, Mr. *James Grant* at *Inveraan*, Miniſters; Mr. *Patrick Grant* of *Elchies* one of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Abernethy*, Mr. *William Gordon* at *Alvie*, Mr. *Patrick Grant* at *Duthil*, Miniſters; *Lauchlan Grant* of *Gartenbeg*, Writer in *Edinburgh*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Elgin*, Mr. *Patrick Duncan* at *Longbride*, Mr. *Alexander Murray* at *Birnie*, Miniſters; Baillie *Robert Grant* Merchant in *Elgin*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Forres*, Mr. *John Squyre* at *Forres*, Mr. *Thomas Gordon* at *Auldearn*, Miniſters; *William Thomſon* Burgeſs in *Forres*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Inverneſs*, Mr. *Æneas Shaw* at *Petty*, Mr. *Daniel Brodie* at *Calder*, Miniſters; *John Baillie* Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Chanonry*, Mr. *Alexander Fraſer* at *Avoch*, Mr. *Donald Fraſer* at *Kilearnan*, Miniſters; *Robert Gordon* of *Haughs*, Merchant in *Cromarty*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Taine*, Mr *John Sutherland* at *Taine*, Mr. *Joſeph Munro* at *Eddertoun*, Miniſters; *John Gorry* Factor on the Eſtate of *Invergordon*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dingwal*, Mr. *John MacLennan* at *Contane*, Mr. *Adam Roſe* at *Dingwal*, Miniſters; *Albert Munro* of *Coul*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Abertarph*, Mr. *John Grant* at *Urquhart*, Mr. *William Grant* at *Kilmanivaig* Miniſters; Mr. *Francis Grant* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Skye*, Mr. *Donald MacQueen* at *Kilmuir*, Mr. *Donald Nicolſon* at *Strath*, Miniſters; *Alexander MacLeod* of *Uliniſh*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lewis*, Mr. *Normand Moriſon* at

Vig, Mr. *John Clark* at *Stornavay*, Miniſters: From the Presbytery of *Viſt*, Mr. *Donald MacLeod* at *North-Viſt*, Mr. *Lachlan MacLean* at *Bara*, Miniſters: From the Presbytery of *Gairloch*, Mr. *John Bethune* at *Glenſhiel*, Mr. *Æneas MacAuley* at *Applecroſs*, Miniſters; *Murdo MacKenzie* of *Letterew*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Dornoch*, Mr. *Robert Kirk* at *Dornoch*, Mr. *James Smith* at *Creech*, Miniſters: From the Presbytery of *Tong*, Mr. *Walter Roſs* at *Tong*, Mr. *John Skeldoch* at *Far*, Miniſters; Captain *George MacKay* of *Skibo*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Caithneſs*, Mr. *David Dunbar* at *Olrick*, Mr. *George Trail* at *Dunnet*, Miniſters; Mr. *William Halawel* Preacher of the Goſpel, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kirkwal*, Mr. *John Ballantine* at *South Ronaldſhay*, Mr. *Hugh Mouat* at *Evie*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Earl of *Morton*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Cairſton*, Mr. *Thomas Hepburn* at *Birſay*, Mr. *William Nisbet* at *Firth*, Miniſters; *Edward Clowſton* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *North-Iſles*, Mr. *Alexander Nisbet* at *Shappinshay*, Mr. *John Scollay* at *Sanday*, Miniſters; *Jerom Denniſon* of *Noltland*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Zetland*, Mr. *Thomas Miller* at *Lerwick*, Mr. *William Mitchel* at *Tingwal*, Miniſters; *John Craigie* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, Mr. *James Stevenſon* at *Edinburgh*, Mr. *Robert Wallace* there, Mr. *George Wiſhart* there, Mr. *George Lindſay* at *North Leith*, Mr. *William Aitken* at *South Leith*, Mr. *Alexander Bryce* at *Kirknewton*, Miniſters; *Robert Montgomery*, Merchant and one of the preſent Baillies of *Edinburgh*, Baillie *William Tod* Merchant there, *James Ker* Eſq; Member of Parliament, Ruling Elders: City of *Edinburgh*, *George Drummond* Eſq; late Lord Provoſt thereof, *William Kier* Baxter and Deacon Conveener of the Trades: Univerſity of *Edinburgh*, Dr. *Patrick Cuming* Profeſſor of Church Hiſtory therein, and one of the Miniſters of *Edinburgh*; Church of *Campvere*, Mr. *James Yair* Miniſter, *Archibald MacAulay* Eſq; Lord Conſervator of the *Scots* Privileges therein; From the Presbytery of *Linlithgow*, Mr. *James Naeſmith* at *Dalmenie*, Mr. *Robert Boyd* at *Muiravonſide*, Mr. *John Adams* at *Falkirk*, Mr. *Charles Wilkie* at *Ecclesmachine*, Miniſters; *George Dundas* of *Dundas* Eſq; and *George White* of *Trees*, Ruling Elders; Burgh of *Linlithgow*, *Robert Clark* one of the preſent Baillies thereof; Burgh of *Queensferry*, *Archibald Stewart* Merchant and late one of the Baillies thereof: From the Presbytery of *Biggar*, Mr. *John Buchanan* at *Covingtoun*, Mr. *John MacAul* at *Symingtoun*, Miniſters; *James Moor* of *Warnhill*, Ruling

ing Elder: From the Presbytery of *Peebles*, Mr. *Gilbert Hutchison* at *Innerliething*, Mr. *Alexander Johnstoun* at *Lyne*, Ministers; *Richard Jamieson* Tenant in *Hundhilshop*, Ruling Elder; Burgh of *Peebles*, Baillie *John Wilson* Merchant in *Edinburgh*: From the Presbytery of *Dalkeith*, Mr. *Thomas Turnbull* at *Borthwick*, Mr. *James Primrose* at *Crichton*, Mr. *William Smith* at *Cranston*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Dundas* younger of *Arniston*, Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Haddingtoun*, Mr. *John Cuming* at *Humbie*, Mr. *Charles Cuningham* at *Tranent*, Mr. *William Robertson* at *Gladsmuir*, Ministers; Sir *Robert Sinclair* of *Stevenson* Baronet, Ruling Elder; Burgh of *Haddingtoun*, Mr. *William Law* of *Elvingstoun*, Advocate; Burgh of *North Berwick*, *Reid* of *Dalserf*, Doctor of Medicine: From the Presbytery of *Dunbar*, Mr. *David Smith* at *Innerwick*, Mr. *John Lundie* at *Oldhamstocks*, Ministers; *Alexander Hamilton* of *Pencaitland* Esq; Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dunbar*, Mr. *Alexander Hume* of *Eccles* one of his Majesty's Sollicitors: From the Presbytery of *Dunse*, Mr. *Robert Monteith* at *Longformacus*, Mr. *Adam Dickson* at *Dunse*, Ministers; *David Cockburn* Baillie of *Langtoun*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Chirnside*, Mr. *James Landereth* at *Simprin*, Mr. *James Allan* at *Eymouth*, Mr. *William Wilson* at *Coldstream*, Ministers; Sir *John Stewart* of *Allanbank* Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Kelso*, Mr. *Joseph Leck* at *Yetholm*, Mr. *Robert Hog* at *Roxburgh*, Ministers; Mr. *Charles Binning* of *Pilmuir* Advocate, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Jedburgh*, Mr. *Robert Riccalton* at *Hobkirk*, Mr. *William Turnbul* at *Abbotrule*, Mr. *John Cranston* at *Ancrum*, Ministers; Mr. *Walter Elliot* of *Broadhaugh*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Jedburgh*, Mr. *Thomas Calderwood* of *Polton*: From the Presbytery of *Earlstoun*, Mr. *James Innes* at *Merton*, Mr. *David Duncan* at *Stow*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Kennedy* of *Greenknow*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Lauder*, Mr. *John Swinton* junior Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Selkirk*, Mr. *Walter Stewart* at *Askirk*, Mr. *James Home* at *Bowden*; Mr. *Andrew Pringle* Advocate, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Selkirk*, the most Honourable the Marquis of *Lothian*: From the Presbytery of *Annan*, Mr. *Alexander Orr* at *Hoddam*, Mr. *James Currie* at *Kirkpatrick*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Dalrymple* of *Priestside* Writer to the Signet, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Langholm*, Mr. *Robert Petrie* at *Canobie*, Mr. *John Dickie* at *Langholm*, Ministers; *Archibald Little* Merchant in *Langholm*, Ruling Elder: From the Presbytery of *Lochmaben*, Mr. *John Allan* at *Kirkmichael*, Mr. *William Scot* at *Kirkpatrick-juxta*, Mr. *George Barclay* at *Wamphry*, Ministers; *John Johnston*

in

in *Garrel*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Lochmaben*, Mr. *James Erskine*, Advocate: From the Presbytery of *Penpont*, Mr. *Archibald Little* at *Morton*, Mr. *John Collow* at *Penpont*, Miniſters: *James Murray* of *Ingliſtoun*, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Sanquhar*, *John Crichton* preſent Provoſt thereof: From the Presbytery of *Dumfries*, Mr. *John Scot* at *Dumfries*, Mr. *William Clark* at *Kirkgunzian*, Mr. *James Hog* at *Kirkbean*, Miniſters; the Right Honourable the Lord Juſtice Clerk, Ruling Elder: Burgh of *Dumfries*, *George Bell* of *Conheath*, Eſq; late Provoſt thereof; with his Grace *James* Duke of *Athole*, *Archibald* Duke of *Argyle*, the moſt Honourable the Marquis of *Tweddale*, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Marchmont*, the Right Honourable the Earl of *Home*, the Right Honourable *Robert Dundaſs* of *Arniſton* Eſq; Lord Preſident of the Court of Seſſion, Sir *Gilbert Elliot* of *Minto*, Mr. *John Sinclair* of *Murkle*, Mr. *Henry Home* of *Kaims*, three of the Senators of the College of Juſtice, Sir *John Clark* of *Pennycook* Baronet, one of the Barons of Exchequer, Ruling Elders; TO be Commiſſioners of this General Aſſembly, to the Effects after mentioned, with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum*, which is hereby declared to be any Thirty-one of the ſaid Commiſſioners, whereof Twenty-one are always to be Miniſters, to meet and conveen within the Aſſembly-houſe at *Edinburgh*, the firſt Day after the Diſſolution of this Aſſembly, at Ten of the Clock in the Forenoon, and thereafter the ſecond *Wedneſday* of *Auguſt*, third *Wedneſday* of *November*, and firſt *Wedneſday* of *March* next to come, and oftner, when and where they ſhall think fit and convenient; with Power to the ſaid Commiſſioners to chuſe their own Moderator: And likeways the General Aſſembly fully impowers their ſaid Commiſſioners, or their *Quorum* abovementioned, to cognoſce and finally determine, as they ſhall ſee Cauſe, in every Matter referred or that ſhall be referred to them, by any Act or Order of this Aſſembly, and to do every thing contained in, and conform to the Inſtructions given or to be given by this Aſſembly; and to advert to the Intereſt of the Church on every Occaſion, that the Church, and preſent Eſtabliſhment thereof do not ſuffer or ſuſtain any Prejudice which they can prevent, as they will be anſwerable: Providing always, that this general Clauſe be not extended to particular Affairs, or Proceſſes before Synods or Presbyteries, that are not of univerſal Concern to, or Influence upon the whole Church. And it is hereby appointed, that no private Proceſſes be determined, except at the four ſtated Diets; and what ſhall be determined at one Diet of the Commiſſion, with relation to private Cauſes, ſhall be unalterable by any other Diet thereof, and ſhall ſtand and continue in Force 'till diſapproven by

by the General Assembly. And the General Assembly renews the Instructions given by the General Assembly in the Year One thousand seven hundred and seventeen to their Commission, and appoints the same to stand in full Force, as Instructions to the Commissioners beforenamed, and to be observed by them in all Points, as if the same were specially here insert: And that they inquire into the publishing and spreading of Books and Pamphlets, tending towards the promoting of Opinions of whatever Kind, inconsistent with our *Confession of Faith*; and that the Recommenders of such Books or Pamphlets, or the Errors therein contained, whether by Word, Writ, or Print, be called before the said Commission to answer for the same. And further, the said Commission is hereby impowered to receive any References and Appeals that shall be made to them from Synods, in Matters of Doctrine, and ripen such Affairs for the General Assembly, and to contribute what they can to the suppressing of Vice and Immorality; and give all needful Advice and Assistance to Synods and Presbyteries, upon Application to them for that End: Likeways to take care that the Impressions of the *Holy Scriptures*, the *Confession of Faith*, and *Catechisms*, and such Books as are authorised by this Church, relating to the Doctrine, Worship, Discipline and Government thereof, be correct; and give Directions about printing the same. And the said Commission are appointed and impowered to keep a Correspondence with the Committee for Reformation of the *Highlands* and *Islands* for suppressing Popery and Superstition, and for promoting the Knowledge of true Religion, and carrying on a Reformation in these Parts, and give Assistance and Concurrence therein; and, if Need be, to apply to the Government for a proper Remedy and speedy Redress. And the said Commissioners are hereby strictly prohibited and discharged to meddle in any other Matters than what are committed and referred to them, as abovementioned: And, in all their Actings, they are to proceed according to the Acts and Constitution of this Church, and to do nothing contrary thereto, or to the Prejudice of the same; declaring, that in and for all their Actings, they shall be accountable to and censurable by the next General Assembly, as they shall see Cause. And this Commission is to continue and endure until another Commission be appointed; and Members are required to attend the Diets of the said Commission, and Absents therefrom ordered to be noticed, according to the 17th Act of the General Assembly, held in the Year One thousand seven hundred and six. And for the better securing of a *Quorum*, and Attendance of Members on the Commission, the General Assembly prohibits the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, or any other Presbytery within twelve Miles

thereof, to meet any of the Days or Weeks appointed for the Meeting of this Commiſſion; and ſuch of the Members of theſe Presbyteries as are on the Commiſſion are required, all of them, to give Attendance on the Diets thereof; and the Presbyteries at a greater Diſtance, who have four or more Members on the Commiſſion, are to take care that at leaſt two of them attend each Diet of the ſame: And the Aſſembly appoint their Commiſſion, at their firſt Meeting, to diſcuſs as many of the Cauſes aud Queſtions, relative to the Settlement of vacant Churches, which are, or ſhall be referred to them by the Aſſembly, as they can overtake. And it is further provided, that when any Presbytety or Synod of this Church ſhall decline to comply with the Sentences of the Commiſſion, or to give the ſame a full Execution, in that Caſe, the Commiſſion is hereby prohibited to execute the ſame, by appointing any ſuch correſpondent Meetings, as has been ſometimes the Practice; but ſhall allow the ſame to lye over to the enſuing Aſſembly, to which ſuch Presbyteries or Synods ſhall be anſwerable for ſuch their Conduct, and are hereby appointed to ſend up with their Commiſſioners their Reaſons for the ſame. And the Aſſembly doth further impower and direct the ſaid Commiſſion to make due Application to the King and Parliament for Redreſs of the Grievance of Patronage, in caſe a favourable Opportunity for ſo doing ſhall occur, during the Subſiſtence of this Commiſſion. And the General Aſſembly do enjoin their Commiſſion, that in paſſing their Sentences, and in ordering the Execution of the ſame, they ſtrictly obſerve the 12th Act of the Aſſembly 1736.

VIII.

Act appointing the Diet of the next General Aſſembly.

Edinburgh, June 4th 1753, Seſſ. ult.

THE next General Aſſembly of this National Church is appointed to be held in this Place, upon the third *Thurſday* of *May* next, being the 24th Day of that Month, in the Year 1754.

Collected and extracted from the Records of the General Aſſembly by

GEORGE WISHART, *Cls. Eccl. Scot.*

The

Edinburgh June 4th 1753, Sess. ult.

THE General Assembly finding by the Report of their Committee for Overtures, that a great Number of Presbyteries have not yet sent up their Returns to the Overtures transmitted to them by the last and former Assemblies, do require such Presbyteries as are still deficient to send up their Opinions on these Overtures, to the next General Assembly *viz.*

Overture about the Psalmody, transmitted in the Year 1750.

Overture about licensing Probationers transmitted in the Year 1749, and, with an Addition, in the Year 1750.

Overture anent Processes against Probationers, transmitted in the Year 1748.

Overture for regulating the Effect of Dissents from Judgments of inferior Courts, transmitted by the Assembly 1752.

OVERTURE anent Presbyteries neglecting to send up their Opinions on the Overtures transmitted to them by the Assembly.

Edinburgh, June 4th 1753. Sess. ult.

UPON a Motion that the Assembly should consider the 7th Act of last Assembly with respect to Overtures transmitted to Presbyteries, concerning which there were a good many Instructions sent up with Commissioners to this Assembly, remonstrating against the Way of passing the said Act, the same not having been previously transmitted as an Overture to Presbyteries, the General Assembly do hereby now transmit the said Act as an Overture to the several Presbyteries of this Church; and appoint, that they send up their Opinions thereon to the next General Assembly, of which Act the Tenor follows, *viz.* "The General Assembly considering, that a great many Presbyteries neglect "to send up their Opinions concerning Overtures transmit-"ted to them, whereby the Consideration and Enacting "of several Overtures hath been postponed, do hereby en-"act, that when any Overture hath been twice transmit-"ted, the General Assembly will, without further Transmis-"sion, take such Overtures into Consideration, and pass in-"to Acts, or reject the same as they shall see Cause, al-"tho' Presbyteries have not sent up their Opinions."

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OF THE

Actings and Proceedings of the General Assembly of the Church of *Scotland*, held in the Year 1753, which are not printed at full Length.

AFTER Sermon by the Reverend Doctor *Patrick Cuming*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, and Moderator of the last General Assembly, the Ministers and Ruling Elders, Members of this Assembly, did conveen, and Mr. *Alexander Webster*, one of the Ministers of *Edinburgh*, being chosen Moderator, he, at the Assembly's Desire, took the Chair. *May* 24th *Sess.* 1.

The King's Commission to *Alexander* Earl of *Leven*, to represent his Majesty's Royal Person in this Assembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

The King's most gracious Letter to this Assembly, read and recorded. *Ibid.*

The Commissioner's Speech at opening this Assembly, and the Moderator's Speech in return thereto. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to draw an Answer to the King's most gracious Letter. *Ibid.*

A Motion being made, that, in regard *Robert MacIntosh*, who acted as Sub-clerk, had died since last General Assembly, to prevent all Disputes that might arise as to the executing of the Offices of Sub-clerk and Agent, and the bringing of such Questions to a public Discussion, a Committee be appointed to enquire into the State of that Affair, and report to the Assembly, at their Meeting on *Saturday*; the Act of the General Assembly 1743, constituting *Robert MacIntosh* and *John Baillie*, joint Agents to the Church, and Sub-clerks to the General Assemblies and Commissions thereof, and Clerks to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, and appointing that the Survivancy of both Offices be in the longest Liver of them two solely, was read; and a Committee appointed for the Purpose abovementioned. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed for revising the Commissions to Members of this Assembly, censuring Absents from the Diets of Assembly, naming Ministers to preach before his

Grace the King's Commiſſioner, receiving in Liſts of Probationers in the ſeveral Presbyteries, in order to be recorded, and of Students in Divinity at the ſeveral Univerſities, and report. *Ibid.*

Committee for Overtures named. *Ibid.*

Committee for Bills, References and Appeals named. *Ibid.*

A Diet ſpent in Prayer. *May* 25th *Seſſ.* 2.

Miniſters named to preach before his Grace the King's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

The Act 7th of the Aſſembly 1718, for the better Diſpatch of the Buſineſs of Aſſembly, read, and the Obſervation thereof enjoined. *Ibid.*

The Formula preſcribed by the 11th Act of Aſſembly 1694 ſigned by the Right Honourable the Earl of *Breadalbine*. *May* 26th *Seſſ.* 3.

The Draught of an Anſwer to the King's moſt gracious Letter to this Aſſembly brought in and approven, and his Grace the Commiſſioner undertakes to tranſmit the ſame to his Majeſty. *Ibid.*

The Report and Opinion of the Committee for Overtures upon the Report of the Committee for reviſing Commiſſions brought in and read, and the Commiſſions from the Presbyteries of *Dunkeld*, *North Iſles*, *Cairſton*, and *Dunbar*, tho' not bearing that the Elders therein-mentioned are qualified in Terms of the Act of Aſſembly 1722; the Commiſſion from the Burgh of *Haddingtoun*, dated 21ſt *April*, which is not 40 Days before the Meeting of the Aſſembly; and the Commiſſion from the Presbytery of *Mull*, to Mr. *Thomas Muſchet* Itinerant Miniſter at *Strontian*, ſuſtained for this Time; declaring that the ſuſtaining theſe Commiſſions, notwithſtanding the above Objections made to them, ſhall not be drawn into a Precedent in Time coming. The Commiſſion from the Presbytery of *Alford*, ſo far as concerns the Ruling Elder, rejected in reſpect there is no Atteſtation whatever of his being qualified in Terms of the Acts of Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Act diſcharging Presbyteries to elect Miſſionary Miniſters or Preachers as their Commiſſioners to the General Aſſemblies. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to conſider the preſent Forms of Commiſſions, and whether it might be proper to make any Alterations in them, and what theſe Alterations ſhould be; and to report their Opinion 'twixt and *Thurſday* next. *Ibid.*

A Committee of Perſons in each Synod appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Actings and Proceedings of the Commiſſion of the late General Aſſembly, audite the Procurator's and Agents Accompts, conſider the State of the Church's public Money, and prepare Overtures about the ſame, agreeable to the 7th Act of the Aſſembly 1712, and

and 8th Act of Aſſembly 1719, and all Petitions and Claims for any Part of the ſaid Money, ordered to be laid before the ſaid Committee, and they appointed to prepare any Overtures or References made by the late Commiſſion to this Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Regiſter of the Committee named by laſt Aſſembly for managing the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands. *Ibid.*

Committees named to reviſe the Synod Books of *Perth*, *Fife*, *Moray*, *Roſs*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, and *Merſe* and *Teviotdale*. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Dumfries*, *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Argyle*, *Glenelg*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, *Orkney*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland* abſent, and reſolved that the Reaſons thereof be inquired into. *Ibid.*

The Committee for Overtures appointed to receive the Inſtructions from the ſeveral Presbyteries and Synods, conſider the ſame, and report. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee appointed to inquire into the State of the Offices of Sub-clerk and Agent for the Church was called and produced, containing a Letter from Mr. *Baillie*, propoſing to have *James Edmonſton* Writer in *Edinburgh* joined with him in the Offices he now enjoys, and in caſe the ſame be approven of, promiſing to execute the proper Reſignation for bringing it into Execution; and ſeveral Members having inſiſted for a Delay till *Tueſday* next, the Aſſembly determined, by a Majority of Voices, to proceed juſt now to conſider the ſaid Report and Propoſal. And it being obſerved, that according to the Terms of Mr. *Baillie*'s Letter contained in the ſaid Report, he was not obliged to reſign unleſs the Aſſembly would accept of the Propoſal of Mr. *Edmonſton*'s being joined with him; thereupon Mr. *Baillie* declared, that as two Candidates had been mentioned, *viz.* the foreſaid Mr. *Edmonſton* and Mr. *William Alſton* Writer to the Signet, he was willing, which ever of them the Aſſembly ſhould think fit to join with him, to execute the proper Reſignation, to the End they might of new appoint him, and the Perſon ſo to be joined with him, in the Offices he now enjoys, upon the ſame Plan that Mr. *MacIntoſh* and he were joined in theſe Offices; then the Aſſembly, by a great Majority of Votes, did accept of Mr. *Baillie*'s Propoſal contained in his Letter, and now further explained by him; from which Reſolution to accept of the ſaid Propoſal, Profeſſor *Cuming*, for himſelf, and in name of all who ſhould adhere to him, entered his Diſſent, and thereupon took Inſtruments, to which Diſſent, the following Members adhered, and alſo took Inſtruments, *viz.*

viz. Messrs. *Robert Hall, Hugh Campbell, Adam Ferguson, James Wemyss, Robert Garden, Patrick Gordon, Æneas Shaw, Alexander Stewart, Alexander Murray, Patrick Wodrow, Andrew Richardson, George Shepherd, Henry Miller, John Lumisden, Adam Dickson, Alexander Crookshank, John Grant, Patrick Grant, Thomas Hepburn, James Lauder, Robert Thomson, Archibald MacNiel, Alexander Orr, William Grant, John Fleming, Duncan MacFarlane, Dougal Allan, George Campbel, James Ogilvie* at *Aberdeen, John Squyre, John MacLennan, John Lundie*, Ministers; Mr. *Robert Dalrymple*, Doctor *Martine*, Baillie *Robert Clark*, Mr. *Thomas Boyes* and Commissioner *Campbel*, Ruling Elders. Then Mr. *Baillie* being called upon, did judicially resign into the Hands of the General Assembly his said Offices of Agent for the Church, Sub-clerk to the General Aessmbly and Commissions thereof, and Clerk to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, to the End, that he and one of the two Candidates above mentioned should be elected as conjunct in the said Offices: Which Resignation being accepted of by the Assembly, and as they were proceeding to determine, in consequence thereof, which of the two Candidates above named should be joined with Mr. *Baillie*, Mr. *Duncan MacFarlane*, for himself, and in name of the other Dissenters, craved it might be marked, that as they had dissented from the Assembly's Resolution, accepting of Mr. *Baillie*'s Proposal, they were not to concern themselves further in this Matter; whereupon the General Assembly did, without a Division, nominate, constitute and appoint the saids *John Baillie* and *James Edmonston* to be conjunct Agents to the Church, and Sub-clerks to the General Assembly and Commissions thereof, and Clerks to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, and that they have equal Right to the stated Salaries and casual Emoluments of the said Offices; but that the Exercise of the Office of Sub-clerk and Clerk to the Royal Bounty be in Mr. *Edmonstone*, and that the Exercise of the other Office of Agent for the Church be executed by Mr. *Baillie*; and that it shall be in the Power of the Assembly to appoint any one of them to execute any Part of these Offices, from Time to Time, in such Manner as they shall direct; and that in case of Sickness, necessary Absence or Inability of either, that the other be obliged to act in all or any of these Offices during such Sickness, necessary Absence, or Inability; and that the Survivancy of all the said Offices be in the longest Liver of the two solely. *Ibid.*

A Motion made, that it should be declared, that in Time coming no Crowns should be payable to the Clerks for Commissions given in to them by the Members of Assembly,

bly, and the Conſideration thereof delayed till another Diet. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to conſider the Motion made Yeſterday, concerning the Crowns payable to the Clerks for Commiſſions given to them by the Members of Aſſembly, and report their Opinion thereupon 'twixt and *Friday* next. *May* 28th *Seſſ.* 4th.

A Sentence of the Presbytery of *Edinburgh*, ſuſtaining a Call by ſome Heretors and Elders of the Pariſh of *Canongate*, to Mr. *John Warden* one of the Miniſters of *Perth*, to be one of the Miniſters of the *Canongate* reverſed; and a Call by other Heretors and Elders of that Pariſh, to Mr. *James Watſon* Miniſter at *Newbattle*, to be their Miniſter, ſuſtained, and the Presbytery of *Edinburgh* appointed to proceed with all convenient Diſpatch in a Proceſs for his Tranſportation from *Newbattle*, and his Admiſſion as firſt Miniſter in the Pariſh of *Canongate*, according to the Rules of the Church. *Ibid.*

His Majeſty's Warrant for 1000 *l. Sterling*, as his Royal Bounty, for encouraging Itinerant Preachers and Catechiſts in the Highlands and Iſlands, given in by the King's Commiſſioner, read and recorded; and the ſaid 1000 *l.* being mentioned in the Warrant as a yearly Donation, the Moderator, at the Aſſembly's Deſire, expreſſed their thankful Senſe of his Majeſty's Goodneſs. *May* 29th, *Seſſ.* 5th.

Report of the Viſitors of the Commiſſion Book brought in and ordered to lye on the Table 'till another Diet. *Ibid.*

A Cauſe relating to the Settlement of the Pariſh of *Biggar* brought in and delayed, and the Presbytery of *Biggar* appointed to repreſent the State of the Caſe to the Pariſh, and to deal with them further in order to reconcile them to Mr. *Haig* the Preſentee, and to report to the Commiſſion in *November*, who are impowered to do therein at that Time as they ſhall ſee Cauſe. *Ibid.*

A Committee appointed to reviſe the Synod Book of *Dumfries*. *May* 30th, *Seſſ.* 6th.

A Committee appointed to conſider an Overture from the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, concerning Simoniacal Pactions, and prepare an Overture concerning it. *Ibid.*

The Presbytery of *Cairſton* appointed to correſpond with the Presbytery of *Kirkwal*, as the Presbytery of *Kirkwal* have a Right of correſponding with them, leaving it to theſe Presbyteries to ſettle between themſelves who the Correſpondents ſhall be. *Ibid.*

An Inſtruction from the Presbytery of *Kirkwal*, concerning the repairing of Kirks and Manſes, brought in from the Committee for Overtures, and ordered to lye on the Table till another Diet. *Ibid.*

An Application from the Presbytery of *Cairston* for the usual Viaticums to Commissioners from the several Presbyteries in that Country, transmitted from the Committee for Overtures, and remitted to the Committee for inspecting the publick Accompts, and they appointed to report their Opinion thereon to the Assembly at their Meeting on *Saturday* next. *Ibid.*

Two Petitions transmitted from the Committee for Bills, the one from certain Heretors, Elders and Heads of Families of the Parish of *Carnock*, craving it might please the Assembly to remove the Sentence of Deposition from off Mr. *Thomas Gillespie* late Minister there, deposed by last Assembly, and repone him again to his Ministry and Labours among them: And the other from the Presbytery of *Dumfermline*, craving the Assembly would restore Mr. *Gillespie* to the Exercise of his Ministry in this Church, and Messrs. *Hunter*, *Daling* and *Spence*, to the full Exercise of their judicative Capacity, from which they were suspended by last Assembly, upon such Application from themselves as should seem proper to the Assembly; and directly to appoint Mr. *Gillespie* to supply the Vacancy at *Carnock*, read, together with Overtures from Synods and Presbyteries relative to this Affair, transmitted from the Committee for Overtures; and the Assembly, upon Enquiry, finding that no Application had been given in to the Committee for Bills from Mr. *Thomas Gillespie* himself, or from the other three Brethren above-mentioned, to have the Censures inflicted upon them by the last Assembly taken off, and that no Member of the House signified his being possessed of any Application from him or them to the Assembly, it was agreed to put the Question, Repone the said Mr. *Thomas Gillespie* or not, by reponing him being meant, restoring him to the Exercise of his Office as a Minister of this Church, and a Capacity of a Call to a Parish in the Establishment; and it being understood, that if it carry Not, it shall be open to him to apply, when he pleases, to the General Assembly for his being reponed; and the Vote being put, it carried Not. From which Resolution, of not reponing Mr. *Gillespie*, the following Members entered there Dissent, and thereupon took Instruments in the Clerk's Hands *viz.* Messrs. *Robert Spears*, *James Ogilvie* at *Aberdeen*, *John Currie*, *John Erskine*, *John Squire*, *James Innes*, *George Muir*, *William Nimmo*, *Thomas Randel*, *John Dunn*, *James Scot*, Sir *William Moncrief*, *John Collow*, and *Archibald Little* Ministers; *James Murray* of *Ingleston*, *John Murkland* and *Alexander Scott*, Ruling Elders. *Ibid.*

The

The Assembly met and adjourned till To-morrow at ten o'Clock, *May* 31st.

Act against Simoniacal Practices, *June* 1st, *Sess.* 7th.

The Choice made by the Trustees for managing the Fund for a Provision to Ministers Widows, *&c.* of Mr. *Alexander Tait* Writter in *Edinburgh* to be their Clerk in place of *Robert MacIntosh* deceased, approven of. *Ibid.*

The Report of the said Trustees brought in and ordered to lye upon the Table till another Meeting. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Visitors of the Register of the Commission of the late Assembly brought in and read, and the following Causes depending before the late Commission and not discussed by them, referred to the Commission of this Assembly, *viz.* Appeals of *Michael Bell*, *David Johnston*, *John M'Taggart* and his Spouse, *John Ferrier*, *Francis Riddel*, *Quintin Dick*, and *David MacMurtrie*.

Reference to the Commission to take in and judge of a Cause anent the Settlement of the Parish of *Cromarty*, at their first Meeting after the Court of Session have determined in a Process of Declarator, depending before them, anent the Right of Patronage of the said Parish. *Ibid.*

The Appointment on the Committee named by last Assembly to draw Rules for regulating the Method of Procedure in Causes before the Assembly, renewed, some Members of this Assembly added to them, and they appointed to give in their Report to the Commission. *Ibid.*

The Proceedings of the Commission of last Assembly approven of, the Commission thanked for their Faithfulness and Diligence in the Affairs committed to them, and their Book ordered to be attested. *Ibid.*

The Brethren from the Presbyteries within the several Synods appointed to meet among themselves, in order to bring in a List of the Nominators of the Commission, according to the 6th Act of the Assembly 1705. *Ibid.*

Reference to the Commission to consider what is the Power of Kirk Sessions in the Management of the Poors Money. *Ibid.*

The Account of Messrs. *Hogg*, and *Mansfield*, of the Money collected for the Protestants in *Breslaw* produced, also produced by the Moderator, a Letter from the Presbytery there, and the Consideration thereof delayed till To-morrow. *Ibid.*

A Petition for *James Lorain* Cashier of the Funds for building the Harbour of *Eymouth*, craving the Assembly's Recommendation for a charitable Collection for finishing the said Harbour, brought in and delayed till To-morrow. *Ibid.*

The

The Royal Warrant for 1000 *l.* ordered to be given to the Procurator, that he may receive Payment thereof. *Ibid.*

A Report from the Presbytery of *Forfar*, of their Proceedings with reſpect to irregular Marriages that happened in their Bounds, brought in and referred to the Committee named to conſider the Overture from the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns* anent Simoniacal Practices. *Ibid.*

A Reference from the Synod of *Glaſgow* and *Air*, of a Petition given into the Presbytery of *Hamilton*, by the Seſſion of *Cambuſlang*, relating to a Deciſion by the Lords of Council and Seſſion, whereby the Seſſion are decerned to pay out of their Pockets, a Sum laid out by them, according to the Cuſtom in other Pariſhes, for purchaſing Utenſils and other Neceſſaries for public Worſhip in the Place, referred to the Commiſſion. *Ibid.*

A Petition of Mr. *William Grant* Miniſter at *Kilmanivaig* referred to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, with a Recommendation to them to take particular Care of the Pariſhes in *Lochaber*, and of *Fort-Auguſtus*. *Ibid.*

A Recommendation to the Gentlemen of the Law, who at laſt Aſſembly generouſly promiſed to appear in Cauſes wherein the Church were concerned, to give their Aſſiſtance in any Proceſs the Miniſters of *Inverneſs* or others in the Bounds of the Synod of *Moray*, in the ſame Circumſtances, may commence for an Augmentation to their Stipends. *Ibid.*

A Motion was made, that the Commiſſion be impowered to take in Mr. *Gilleſpie*'s Caſe, and give Judgement upon it, upon Application from him, ſignifying that it is his earneſt Deſire to be reponed, and that he would eſteem it as a Privilege; and it being urged to put the Queſtion, Agree to this Motion or not, the Aſſembly agreed to put the previous Queſtion, *viz.* Whether a Queſtion ſhould be put on this Motion or not, and it carried that the Queſtion ſhould not be put. *Ibid.*

All the Overtures from Synods and Presbyteries to this Aſſembly which remain to be conſidered, referred to the Commiſſion who are inſtructed to draw up from theſe one or more Overtures to be laid before next General Aſſembly; from which Reſolution, Mr. *Murray* of *Inglistoun* entered his Diſſent. *Ibid.*

The Reaſons of Diſſent entered by the Reverend Profeſſor *Cuming*, and adhered to by ſeveral others, againſt the Reſolution of the Aſſembly approving of a Propoſal by *John Baillie* Writer to the Signet, of having *James Edmonſton* Writer in *Edinburgh* joined with him in the Offices of Agent for the Church, Sub-clerk to the General Aſſembly and Commiſſions thereof, and Clerk to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty, brought in and ordered

ordered to lye *in retentis*, and a Committee named to draw Anſwers thereto, which are alſo appointed to be kept *in retentis*. *June* 2d *Seſſ.* 8.

The Year appointed to be marked at the Top of each Page of the Aſſembly Records. *Ibid.*

A Liſt of Members from the ſeveral Synods brought in and appointed as a Committee to name the Members of the Commiſſion of this Aſſembly, and prepare Inſtructions to them. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Viſitors of the Regiſter of the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty for Reformation of the Highlands and Iſlands brought in; the Remarks therein made, remitted to the Committee to be named by this Aſſembly; all Miniſters from the Highlands appointed to attend the Meeting of the ſaid Committee; and the Regiſter ordered to be atteſted. *Ibid.*

The Draught of a Commiſſion and Inſtructions to the Committee for managing the Royal Bounty this Year, brought in, and, after ſome Additions, approven of. *Ibid.*

The Accompt of Meſſrs. *Hogg* and *Mansfield*, of the Money collected for the Proteſtants at *Breſlaw*, wirh the Letter to the Moderator from the Presbytery there given in Yeſterday, inſpected, and the Balance of 98 *l* 13 *s.* 4 *d*, *Sterl.* of that Money in the Hands of Meſſrs. *Hogg* and *Mansfield*, appointed to be remitted to Mr. *Fin* authoriſed by the Elders of the Church at *Breſlaw* to receive the ſame. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Committee on the public Money brought in and read, and, with Conſent of the Creditors on the public Funds, the Sum of 5 *l Sterl.* agreed to be given to each of the three Commiſſioners from the Presbyteries of *Kirkwal*, *Cairſton* and *North Iſles*, for their Attendance on this Aſſembly, declaring that the giving them this Relief at this time ſhall not be drawn into a Precedent. The Opinion of the Committee that Mr. *John MacLennan* preſent Miniſter at *Contan*, pay to Mr. *Murdo MacKenzie*, late Miniſter there, the Sum of 3 *l. Sterl.* in full of his Demands for a Piece of Graſs Ground adjacent to the Glebe of *Contan*, (for which Mr. *MacKenzie* had formerly got 12 *l.* out of the Church's Money) and that Mr. *MacLennan* be intitled to Repayment of the ſaid 3 *l.* from his Succeſſors in Office. *Ibid.*

Act appointing a Collection to be made at the Church Doors of all the Pariſhes in *Scotland*, for building the Harbour of *Eymouth*, upon any Lord's Day betwixt and the firſt Day of *November* next, the particular Day to be fixed by the ſeveral Presbyteries, as they find to be moſt convenient for the Pariſhes within their Bounds, and the Money ſo collected to be paid into the Hands

of Mr. *Couts* and Company, or of Mr. *James Stewart* Collector of the Funds for Miniſters Widows. *Ibid.*

A Letter from the Presbytery of *Zetland*, with an Extract of their Proceedings with reſpect to Mr. *Matthew Moncrief*, Miniſter of the united Pariſhes of *Breſſa* and *Burray*, referred to the Commiſſion at their Meeting in *November* next. *Ibid.*

A Call by the Heretors of the Pariſh of *Nigg*, to Mr. *Patrick Grant* Miniſter at *Duthil*, who has a Preſentation from the Crown, to be Miniſter of *Nigg*, ſuſtained and concurred with, and the Presbytery of *Tain*, appointed with all Speed to proceed in a Proceſs for his Tranſportation from *Duthil* and Settlement at *Nigg*, according to the Rules of this Church. *Ibid.*

The Accompts of the Procurators, Agents and Printer for the Church, with the Report of the Committee who examined the ſame, produced, and ordered to lye on the Table till another Meeting, to be peruſed by Members. *Ibid.*

A Letter from the Reverend Mr. *Chandler* at *London*, bearing, that he and ſeveral other Gentlemen in *London* had formed themſelves into a Society to act as Truſtees for the Management of the Charity for the Proteſtants in *Penſylvania*; that they propoſed to maintain a ſtated Correſpondence with this Church, with that in *Holland*, with ſeverals in *Germany*, and with the Emigrants in *Penſylvania*, that all Monies may be tranſmitted to them by a general Agreement; that, in his Judgment, all the Collections made in *Great Britain* ſhould centre in the Hands of the Truſtees there, who are to ſettle a Correſpondence in *Penſylvania* for the more proper Diſtribution and Application thereof. That ſix new Miniſters are already ſettled amongſt the Proteſtants in *Penſylvania*, and that ſix more are immediately wanted, produced and read; with another Letter from the ſaid Mr. *Chandler*, bearing, the ſaid Society's Propoſal of employing *Engliſh* School-maſters for inſtructing the Youth in *Penſylvania*, and expreſſing their Intention of keeping a conſtant Correſpondence with that Church, by ſuch Perſons as the Aſſembly ſhall appoint for that Purpoſe. The ſeveral Pariſhes deficient in making their Collections for the Proteſtants in *Penſylvania* appointed, betwixt and the firſt of *Auguſt* next, to make the ſaid Collection, and tranſmit the Money collected to Mr. *William Hogg* Merchant in *Edinburgh*, and a Committee appointed to correſpond with the ſaid Society. *June* 4th *Seſſ. ult.*

The Report of the Committee for naming the Members of the Commiſſion and drawing Inſtructions to them, brought in and approven. *Ibid.*

The Reaſons of Diſſent entered by Mr. *Robert Spears* and others

others from the Sentence of the Aſſembly pronounced on *Wedneſday* laſt, refuſing to repone Mr. *Thomas Gilleſpie*, together with the Reaſons of Diſſent entered by *James Murray* of *Ingliſton* from the Judgment of the Aſſembly on *Friday* laſt, referring all the Overtures from Synods and Presbyteries, which have not been conſidered by the Aſſembly, to the Commiſſion, given in and ordered to lye *in retentis*, and a Committee named to draw Anſwers to theſe Reaſons, which are alſo ordered to lye *in retentis*. *Ibid.*

The ſeveral Presbyteries deficient in ſending their Opinions on the Overtures tranſmitted to them by the laſt and preceeding Aſſemblies appointed to ſend up their Opinions to the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

The 7th Act of laſt General Aſſembly tranſmitted as an Overture to the ſeveral Presbyteries, that they may ſend their Opinions thereon to the next Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of Mr. *David Dalrymple* Advocate, Procurator for the Church, his Intromiſſions with his Majeſty's Allowance for defraying the publick Charges of the Church, for the Terms of *Ladyday*, *Midſummer*, *Michaelmas* and *Chriſtmas* 1752, and appointing a Balance of 168 *l.* 18 *s.* 3 *d.* Halfpenny *Sterling* in his Hands to be charged in his next Accompt. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of *John Baillie* Agent for the Church, and appointing that he have Credit in his next Accompt for the Balance of 21 *l.* 10 *s.* 5 *d.* Halfpenny *Sterling* due to him. *Ibid.*

Act approving the Accompts of the deceaſt *Robert Mac-Intoſh* late Agent for the Church, and appointing that the Balance of 9 *l.* 7 *s.* 10 *d.* Halfpenny *Sterling* reſting to him, be paid to his Heirs. *Ibid.*

Order for Payment of an Accompt due to the Printers for the Church, amounting to 26 *l.* 0 *s.* 9 *d. Sterling*. *Ibid.*

The Report of the Truſtees for managing the Fund for a Proviſion to Miniſters Widows, containing a State of the Fund under their Management, and an Accompt of their Proceedings ſince laſt General Aſſembly, reproduced and ordered to be recorded in the ſeparate Regiſter kept for that Purpoſe. *Ibid,*

A Committee named to give their Opinion and Advice to the Presbytery of *Kirkwal*, upon the Inſtruction from them preſented to the Aſſembly on *Friday* laſt, anent the repairing of Kirks and Manſes in their Bounds. *Ibid.*

Found that there was no Report from the Committee for conſidering the Affair of the Crowns paid to the Clerks at giving in Commiſſions. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Fife*, *Murray*, *Roſs*, *Lothian* and *Tweeddale*, *Merſe* and *Teviotdale* atteſted. *Ibid.*

The

The Synod Book of *Dumfries* atteſted, with a Recommendation, that they cauſe fill up the Blanks, and be careful in Time coming to have their Regiſter regularly filled up. *Ibid.*

The Synod Books of *Galloway*, *Glaſgow* and *Air*, *Argyle*, *Perth* and *Stirling*, *Angus* and *Mearns*, *Aberdeen*, *Glenelg*, *Sutherland* and *Caithneſs*, *Orkney*, and Presbytery Book of *Zetland*, abſent, and ordered to be brought up to be reviſed by the next General Aſſembly. *Ibid.*

Proteſtation admitted at the Inſtance of the Heretors and others of the Pariſh of *Logie* and *Pert*, Callers of Mr. *William Cruden* to be their Miniſter, againſt others of that Pariſh, Callers of Mr, *James MacKail*, and againſt the Presbytery of *Brechine*, for not inſiſting in their Appeal from a Sentence of the Synod of *Angus* and *Mearns*, ſuſtaining a Call to the ſaid Mr. *Cruden*. *Ibid.*

Proteſtation admitted at the Inſtance of Mr. *William Scot* Miniſter at *Kirkpatrickjuxta*, againſt *John Carruthers* in the Pariſh of *Dryſdale*, and *Robert Carruthers* in the Pariſh of *Mouſwald*, for not inſiſting in their Appeals from Sentences of the Synod of *Dumfries*, affirming the Sentences pronounced by the Presbytery of *Lochmaben* in the Proceſſes of Scandal againſt them. *Ibid.*

Liſt of Probationers in the Bounds of 38 Presbyteries, produced, amounting to 114, and ordered to be recorded. *Ibid.*

The Minutes of this Sederunt were read, the Minutes of former Sederunts being read at the Diets ſubſequent to each Sederunt. *Ibid.*

A Committee named to reviſe the Minutes of this Aſſembly's Proceedings at this and all other Diets thereof, and to pitch upon ſuch of the Acts of this Aſſembly as are to be ſtanding Rules, or are of public Uſe, in order to their being printed. *Ibid.*

The Moderator's Speech to the Aſſembly, and to his Majeſty's Commiſſioner. *Ibid.*

The Lord Commiſſioner's Speech in return thereto; and then the Aſſembly concluded. *Ibid.*

FINIS.

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